

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-14, and 16-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art in view of Yuuki et al. (US 6,108,063).

Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art in view of Takahashi (JP 5-249422).

Claims 5, 6, 9, 18, and 19 are objected to for minor informalities.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant has amended claims 5, 6, 9, 18, and 19 to further define the invention and correct minor informalities, and added new claim 21. Accordingly, claims 1-21 are pending for further consideration.

Objection to Claims 5, 6, 9, 18, and 19

Claims 5, 6, 9, 18, and 19 are objected to for minor informalities. Applicant has amended claims 5, 6, 18, and 19 to correct the minor informalities in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. In addition, Applicant has amended claim 9 to provide relative dispositions of the claimed flat and inclined surfaces of the drain electrode. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to claims 5, 6, 9, 18, and 19 be withdrawn.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-14, and 16-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art in view of Yuuki et al. (US 6,108,063), and claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable

over Admitted Prior Art in view of Takahashi (JP 5-249422). Applicant traverses these rejections for the following reasons.

Independent claims 1, 10, and 14 all recite, in part, steps of “cleaning exposed surfaces of the bonded upper and lower substrates.” In contrast to Applicant’s claimed invention, the etching processes taught by Yuuki et al. and Takahashi both are used to reduce a thickness of the display panel. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Yuuki et al. and Takahashi neither teaches nor suggests the Applicant’s claimed features of “cleaning exposed surfaces of the bonded upper and lower substrates.” These claimed features are also completely lacking from the admitted prior art shown in FIGs. 1-4.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20 are neither taught nor suggested by any of the applied prior art references, whether taken alone or in combination. Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be withdrawn because the above-discussed novel combinations of features are neither taught nor suggested by any of the applies references, whether taken alone or in combination.

New Claim 21

Applicant has added new claim 21 to further define the invention. Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 21 is allowable for its dependency upon independent claim 1, as well as the features new claim 21 recites.

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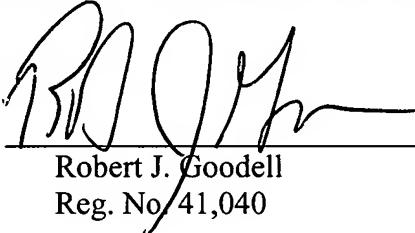
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such as an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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